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Claims:

1. An aqueous hard surface cleaning and/or sanitizing composition which comprises:
 - 5 an anionic surfactant;
 - an alkali metal hydroxide;
 - soap;
 - solvent selected from alcohol, glycol ether, or mixture thereof; and
 - water.
- 10 2. The composition according to claim 1 wherein the surfactant is present in an amount of from about 0.01 to about 20 wt.%.
 3. The composition according to any one of claims 1 to 2 wherein the alkali metal
 - 15 hydroxide is present in an amount of from about 0.01 to about 2 wt.%.
 4. The composition according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the soap is present in an amount of from about 0 to about 20 wt.%.
 - 20 5. The composition according to any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the solvent is present in an amount of from about 0.1 to about 10 wt.%.
 6. The composition according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the solvent is an alcohol.
 - 25 7. The composition according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the solvent is glycol ether.
 8. The composition according to any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the solvent is a
 - 30 mixture of alcohol and glycol ether.
 9. An aqueous hard surface cleaning and/or sanitizing composition which comprises:
 - 0.01-20 wt.% of an anionic surfactant;
 - 35 0.01 – 2 wt.% of an alkali metal hydroxide;

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0 – 20 wt% soap;

0.1 – 10 wt% of a solvent selected from alcohol, glycol ether, or mixture thereof;

and

water to 100 wt%.

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10. The composition according to claim 9, further comprising 0.1 – 20 wt% soap.

11. The composition according to any one of claims 9 to 10, wherein the solvent is an alcohol.

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12. The composition according to any one of claims 9 to 11 wherein the alcohol is benzyl alcohol.

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13. The composition according to any one of claims 9 to 10 wherein the solvent is a glycol ether.

14. The composition according to any one of claims 9 to 11 and 13 wherein the glycol ether is propylene glycol phenyl ether.

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15. The composition according to any one of claims 9 to 10 wherein the solvent is a mixture of alcohol and glycol ether.

16. The composition according to any one of claims 9 to 10 and 15 wherein the alcohol is benzyl alcohol.

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17. The composition according to any one of claims 9 to 10, 15 and 16 wherein the glycol ether is propylene glycol phenyl ether.

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18. The composition of the present invention substantially as described with reference to one or more of the Examples.

19. A process for the sanitization of hard surfaces and articles wherein the presence of bacteria is suspected which comprises the process step of:

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contacting the surface with a disinfecting effective amount of a composition according to claim 1 for a sufficient time to sanitize said surface.

20. A process for the sanitization of surfaces and articles wherein the presence of bacteria is suspected which comprises the process step of:

contacting the surface with a disinfecting effective amount of a composition according to claim 9 for a sufficient time to sanitize said surface.

21. A composition according to any of claims 1 – 18 characterized in that:

the compositions exhibit germicidal efficacy against Gram positive bacteria on hard surfaces.

22. A composition according to any of claims 1 – 18 characterized in that:

the compositions exhibit germicidal efficacy against Gram negative bacteria on hard surfaces.

23. The composition according to any of claims 1 – 18 characterized in that:

the compositions provide at least a 2 log₁₀ reduction of *Salmonella choleraesuis* using a Biomek assay at a 15 second contact time.

24. The composition according to claim 23 characterized in that:

the compositions provide at least a 2 log₁₀ reduction of both *Salmonella choleraesuis* and *Staphylococcus aureus* using a Biomek assay at a 15 second contact time.

25. A composition according to any of claims 1 – 18 characterized in that:

the compositions exhibit blooming when diluted in water at a ratio of 1 part of the composition to 10 to 100 parts of water.